United States Mission to the OSCE

Statement on Georgia

As delivered by Chargé d'Affaires Douglas A. Davidson to the Permanent Council, Vienna January 30, 2003

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The United States shares the concerns expressed by other delegations here today over the reports of heavy weapons, including artillery, in a military depot in the Tskhinvali region that apparently belongs to the Ossetian battalion of the Joint Peacekeeping Force.

We urge all sides to the conflict in South Ossetia to respect their commitments and obligations, and to work together constructively towards a peaceful, comprehensive political settlement to the conflict.

The United States reiterates its full commitment to the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Georgia.

We look forward to receiving further information on the presence of undeclared and/or impermissible military equipment within the South Ossetian zone of conflict, including, as appropriate, information from the anticipated report of the Joint Peacekeeping Force.

Thank you.